

THEY'LL MURDER US *but is Lee kidding again?*

BRIAN LEE, 38-year-old manager of FA Cup shock team Wycombe Wanderers, was at it again today.

He cast his soccer eye over tonight's third round replay at Middlesbrough and said: "They will murder us."

Sounds familiar? Well, before Saturday's tie, Lee said: "They could still beat us if they played with their legs tied together."

We all know what happened. Little Wycombe incredibly earned a replay on a day of Cup shocks.

So is Lee trying to kid the troops?

Are his no-chance predictions aimed to motivate his players into action?

Or are they designed to lull the opposition into false complacency?

By

SportNews

Reporter

Before a training session on Middlesbrough's training ground today, Lee said: "No it is not a question of psychology. I am just being a realist."

"Football is not a game of fantasy. It is not 'Roy of the Rovers'."

"It is a very realistic competition between two teams."

"Middlesbrough will be too good for us."

Wycombe players have tremendous respect for Lee.

Inside-forward Steve Perrin sums up: "The manager is very honest. He is not a cheat. We respect him for this."

REALIST

"Saying we have no chance is being realistic. I suppose. Yet the players feel we have a chance."

Centre-half and captain Alan Phillips added: "Lee picks the right type of players to motivate at the start of a season."

It is one of his greatest assets. He is a good planner."

No chance tonight? "I would not say that. We will be out to hustle and bustle to try and stop free-flowing football from Middlesbrough."



BRIAN LEE

And although Wycombe Wanderers probably will say farewell at Middlesbrough tomorrow night, they have bestirred a professional football backwater in Buckinghamshire that usually commutes to Oxford or London for its soccer.

Reward for Wycombe, if they can achieve the almost impossible and beat Middlesbrough in

Tuesday's replay at Ayresome, is a home game with Sunderland.

After the goalless draw, Boro boss Jack Charlton said: "This was one of the days when I wish I was not a manager. I was scared stiff. We never deserved draw."